

As India's corporate sector faces growing environmental compliances and CSR requirements, MV Kini guides its clients through India's environmental laws, case law, and latest policy developments of relevance to the corporate sector from a long-term risk management perspective.

We help clients chalk out a compliance strategy - obtaining or renewing environmental permits under the various laws including those relating to the use and management of water, air, forests, chemical substances, hazardous wastes, e-waste, plastic waste, construction & demolition waste, bio-medical waste, ozone depleting substances, insecticides as well as food safety laws. Moreover, our lawyers regularly interact with the respective government agencies supervising these different sets of environmental laws, including the departments in charge of issuing import/export approvals.

We assist companies with their environmental due diligences and assessments of whether an Environmental Clearance / Environmental Impact Assessment needs to be obtained.

Clients are guided through their interactions with the State Pollution Control Boards (SPCBs), the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and the central Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).

The firm is skilled in turning around challenging non-compliance situations, such as in a company's immediate post-merger or acquisition phase, or after receiving show cause notices from SPCBs.

Our environmental lawyers throughout India also assist manufacturing companies with obtaining all permits to set up their units, including all EHS-related consents and clearances, fire compliance, factories' law compliances, local body approvals, etc. Our team takes pride in assisting its clients while maintaining highest ethical standards.

Our team monitors closely all environmental cases handled by the National Green Tribunals, High Courts and the Supreme Court and closely collaborates with MVKini's litigation team in this regard, thereby also offering seamlessly integrated legal services to our corporate clients.

We have successfully defended clients in several high-stake litigation cases against government agencies.

The firm assists clients with conveying their feedback on draft environmental laws and guidelines to the MoEF&CC.

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW TEAM

Ms. Els Reynaers Kini, Partner, heads the Environmental Law team. She brings with her a wealth of international experience, as a Belgian lawyer who also studied and worked in the United States, prior to qualifying as an Indian lawyer. Els appears in the international 'Who's Who of Environment Lawyers'.

Tavinder Sidhu, Partner, heads the litigation team in New Delhi and in this capacity oversees all environmental cases before the National Green Tribunals, the Delhi High Court and the Supreme Court. He regularly represents clients before the MoEF&CC; the Delhi PCB and the Ozone Cell in New Delhi.

Ram P. Varma, Partner, has more than 20 years' experience in corporate litigation and heads MVKini's practise in the southern states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh based out of our Hyderabad office. Ram offers advice on joint ventures and collaborations and helps investors in obtaining licenses and approvals for setting up manufacturing projects in SEZs or green field projects in non-SEZs. He assists our clients in obtaining all consents/ authorizations from SPCBs.

Abhay Itagi, Principal Associate, holds a LL.M. from The George Washington University School of Law in the specialized area of Litigation and

International Dispute Resolution. Abhay has been actively involved in arbitrations and dispute settlements for large companies like Air India and ONGC. He represents our corporate clients like NPCIL and NHAI before the National Green Tribunal, Pune, and the Bombay High Court in all environment-related litigation. Abhay also regularly interacts with the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board and other government agencies to obtain permits/licences for companies setting up their units in Maharashtra.

Harshal Madan, Associate, is a corporate lawyer and company secretary in our Delhi office who regularly interacts with environmental government agencies in the context of obtaining import/export approvals and registrations under various environmental laws, including the MoEF&CC; the CPCB; the Ozone Cell, the Central Insecticides Board & Registration Committee (CIBRC) and the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT).